

THE LEGACY SPECTRUM



Letter To Power Holder

MM/DD/YYYY

Power Holder's Name

Street Address

City, State ZIP

Dear *Name of Power Holder*:

Thank you for agreeing to serve as a backup Trustee and Power Holder under my estate plan. I've watched you mature into a successful person, spouse, parent and involved citizen. I respect the person you've become and am confident you will exercise sound judgment on behalf of my family if called upon to do so.

In very broad terms, my estate plan leaves my assets to my (*wife/husband*) then equally to our children plus an amount to a charitable foundation. The amount our children will receive is capped at a specific amount. In addition, a separate trust has been established to provide a scholarship fund for our grandchildren's college education. Lastly, a significant amount will be left to our Donor Advised Fund at our community foundation, to be distributed pursuant to a written plan.

Upon my death, my (*wife/husband*) will become Trustee and Power Holder for (*his/her*) lifetime. You would only step in to serve in the event of my (*wife's/husband's*) death. At the time of this letter, we are age _____ and _____ and our children are ages _____. All of them have become mature, responsible adults who we feel are capable of handling money responsibly.

Under the terms of the trust, each child may become his or her own trustee with your written permission. In the unlikely event we both die before each child turns _____, they would need your permission to be their own trustee. It is my hope that you would grant such permission unless you are trying to protect assets from themselves or others. Circumstances that might cause you to deny a request to be their own trustee might be: bankruptcy, attachment by creditors, divorce, chemical dependency, incapacity, etc. In the highly unlikely event a child has completely disenfranchised himself or herself from the family, you have the authority to distribute their share to the other children or direct all or a portion of that child's proportional share to charity.

We have made it clear to our children that we expect them to work hard, contribute to society and make it on their own. We have little interest in giving them significant amounts of cash during our lifetimes. We will help them pay for education for their children. Most importantly, we will leave a financial safety net so when their working careers are over, they can retire with financial security. If there is more money than they reasonably need at that time, they will have the option to leave the remainder in trust for their heirs.

We have built a professional advisor team that is familiar with our overall Legacy Plan. Barring some compelling reason, I would anticipate you would continue to rely on them for advice and information.

They can handle all of the administrative functions (tax returns, money management, correspondence, etc.) required of you. Your primary role is to understand our children's circumstances, work with them and exercise your judgment.

If there comes a time when you are unable or no longer desire to serve in this capacity, you can resign. The following order of succession is: (1. *Name*, 2. *Name*, 3. *Name*), then a corporate trustee.

I believe it is likely either or both of us, will live to an old age. By that time, there will have been many changes and we will likely have made changes to our documents. Life is uncertain, and death can occur at any time. It comforts us to know that you are there as a "back stop" to carry out our financial plans for our children. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Name of creator of the trust